

sion, however, if we are rightly informed, the wall at the end of the sewer was knocked down to give air.

The descriptive report, to which we have alluded, gives a fearful picture of the sewers generally in the Westminster district, and we must quote a few lines of it, to prevent the possible inference, from the short extract just given, that the new neighbourhood of which we are speaking is in any degree worse than other places.

In the Knightsbridge sewer, near the end of Sloane-street, "the deposit is so great, and the stench so strong, that one of the men came out in a fainting state." Lowndes-place, "one to two feet of deposit." Esher-street, "two feet of deposit." Oxford-street, "on the north side from Portman-street, westward, in so ruinous a state as to be in danger of falling. \* \* \* Must be nearly choked with deposit before it can have any discharge." Whitehall-place, "wretched state. \* \* \* Two or three feet deposit." Tothill-street and Westminster Workhouse, indescribable. St. George's-square, "one to two feet of putrid matter." Chesterfield-street, "so filled with deposit that portions of them cannot be perambulated." Parliament-street, "nearly filled with deposit—smell horrible;" and so from bad to worse. And "even throughout the new Paddington district, the neighbourhood of Hyde-park Gardens, and the costly squares and streets adjacent, the sewers abound with the foulest deposit, from which the most disgusting effluvia arises."

One of our correspondents, "Philo Medicus," asks, "of what avail are such expensive reports, if nothing of a practical nature be to follow? In this district of the Pimlico sewers, the commissioners appear to have most ample and easy means of flushing and cleansing at their disposal, by a communication with the water of Grosvenor Canal. How are the public to be reconciled to the want of attention on the part of the commissioners, with such easy appliances at hand, that could almost at any time be made to cleanse most effectually all the sewers in this particular locality?"

Another wishes to know how the present state of the sewers and the enormous sums paid by the public for flushing (and concerning which some inquiry must yet take place), are to be reconciled. We will not, however, now enter on this inquiry.

The absence of gully-holes in the closed-up sewer was not sufficiently dwelt upon at the inquest; there were none, excepting two near the junction with the Warwick-street sewer, and these, if we understand rightly, are trapped. Serious as are the evils of open gullies, they must not be trapped under present arrangements, without the provision of other means of ventilation, so long as it is necessary for men to go into the sewers.

Mr. Phillips stated, in his evidence, that formerly the commissioners put in the gully-holes, but, according to the recent regulations, Mr. Cubitt was bound to do so. But we are told, in reply to personal inquiry, that Mr. Cubitt's people have never put any in, leaving the matter wholly in the hands of the commissioners. If there had been two open gullies next the butt-end of the sewer, we should probably not have had to record this sad disaster.

We earnestly hope that the distressing occurrence which has brought from us these remarks may lead to immediate steps for permanent improvement. The effect of the direful evolved by decomposing animal and

CARVED STALL, STA. SALUTE, VENICE.



vegetable matter is seen when, in a concentrated form, they kill with lightning speed. But it is not alone when this is the case that the foe requires repulse. Even when diluted, these gases spread sickness and death around, although (the result not being so speedy, the connection not being so apparent) the real cause may remain unguessed at.

We would direct attention to a communication on another page in advocacy of the proposed Building Artificers' Provident Society.

#### OAK STALLS.

STA. SALUTE, VENICE.

THE church of Sta. Salute was built by Baldassare Longhena, pursuant to a decree of the Senate in 1632, after the cessation of the great pestilence, in which 60,000 of the inhabitants are said to have died. The annexed engraving represents one of the carved divisions which form the lower range of stalls in the tribune at the east end.

The carving is similar in style to that seen in the stalls of St. Giorgio Maggiore, and much resembles it also in character. These stalls were executed by a Flemish artist, as we may judge from an inscription on one of the divisions, and were completed about thirty-four years before the building of Sta. Salute.

EXAMPLE TO EMPLOYERS.—WORKMEN'S NEWS AND READING-ROOMS.—Messrs. T. Hoyle and Sons, says the *Manchester Spectator*, have converted one of their own spacious dwellings into decorated and commodious reading-rooms, for the work people at their print works at Mayfield. The principal room is furnished with a selection of newspapers and periodicals, and adorned with great maps on Mercator's projection, &c. A smoking-room has been provided, and chess and draught boards, &c., supplied. By an attendant appointed by the people themselves, hot coffee, tobacco, and cooling beverages, at cost price, are supplied before work hours in the morning, as well as throughout the day. One evening in the week the principal apartment is devoted to musical and other innocent or rational entertainments.

#### SOUTH-EAST VIEW OF THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTON-IN-THE-EAST, TOWER-STREET, LONDON.

THERE are but few ancient ecclesiastical buildings left us within the walls of the City. The churches which escaped the destructive flames of the year 1666, may be soon reckoned. The dismal fire, as it is called in the manuscript records of St. Dunstan-in-the-East, made cruel havoc with many a "beautiful house" where our fathers worshipped. Still, though we no longer behold the identical old fabric, within whose hallowed walls the merchants of by-gone days, when merchants were as princes, offered up their prayers and praises, we have churches on their original sites, and even on the former foundations. The "fair and large church" of St. Dunstan, which was well nigh destroyed by the fire of London in 1666, gave place to a building by Sir Christopher Wren, in which he tried his hand at the Gothic style of architecture. The elegant tower and spire shown in the engraving are his. The details of these, it is unnecessary to say, are questionable. The body of the church is of modern construction. There is a tradition, that the plan of the tower and spire, suggested by St. Nicholas, at Newcastle, was furnished by the daughter of the great City architect, Jane Wren, who died in 1702, aged 26, and was buried under the choir of St. Paul's Cathedral. And if female talent was thus enlisted in the production of the airy spire before us, female benevolence was not wanting in the completion of the structure. To the honour of Lady Dionysia Williamson's memory be it told, that she, in 1670, gave 4,000*l.* (an enormous sum in those days) towards the building. On the occasion of the dreadful storm which raged in London through the night of the 26th November, 1703, until the morning, Wren, on hearing that some of the steeples and pinnacles in the City had suffered serious injury, observed that he felt sure of finding St. Dunstan's tower and spire secure.

In 1817, the walls having bulged, it was determined to rebuild the body of the church. The architect employed was Mr. David Laing. He, with the active assistance of Mr. Wm. Tite, now known as the architect of the Royal Exchange, erected the present fabric, which was opened in January, 1821. It is constructed of Portland stone, and is a very fair specimen for that period, of the style of Gothic architecture termed "Perpendicular." The principal entrance is from the north-east, by a